

**HAMRE, SCHUMANN,
MUELLER & LARSON, P.C.**
AN INTERNATIONAL INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW FIRM

FAX TRANSMISSION October 2, 2006

TO: Mail Stop: ISSUE FEE
 Examiner: BERNATZ
 Commissioner for Patents
 PO Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FROM: Douglas P. Mueller

OUR REF: 10873.0792USD1

TELEPHONE: (612) 455.3800

Total pages, including cover letter: 4

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If all pages are NOT received, please call us at 612.455.3800 or fax us at 612.455.3801.

Title of Document: **Communication regarding Form 1449**

Applicant: HIRAMOTO et al.
Serial No.: 10/848,742
App. Filed: May 17, 2004
Group Art No.: 1773
Conf. No.: 7331

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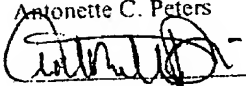
By: 

Name: Douglas P. Mueller

Reg. No.: 30,300

I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Antonette C. Peters


Signature

Oct 2, 2006
Date

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S/N 10/848,742

PATENTIN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| | | | |
|-------------|---------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Applicant: | HIRAMOTO et al. | Examiner: | BERNATZ |
| Serial No.: | 10/848,742 | Group Art Unit: | 1773 |
| Filed: | May 17, 2004 | Docket No.: | 10873.0792USD1 |
| Title: | MAGNETO-RESISTIVE ELEMENT | | |

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.6(d)

I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on October 2, 2006.

By:
Name: Antonette C. PetersCOMMUNICATION REGARDING FORM 1449

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Commissioner:

Pertaining to the above-referenced patent application, Applicants respectfully assert that on May 17, 2004, an Information Disclosure Statement was filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office. However, the Form 1449 has not been returned to the undersigned as being considered by the Examiner. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, be returned to the undersigned with an official communication.

Respectfully submitted,

HAMRE, SCHUMANN, MUELLER &
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P.O. Box 2902
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(612) 455-3800

By:

Douglas P. Mueller
Reg. No. 30,300
DPM/acp

Dated: October 2, 2006**53148**

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Date Mailed April 15, 2003

Sheet 1 of 2

FORM 1449

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

IN AN APPLICATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number:

10873.792USD1

Application Number:

09/931,113

Applicant: HIRAMOTO et al.

Filing Date: August 16, 2001

Group Art Unit: 1775

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NO. | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
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| | DOCUMENT NO. | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION | |
|--|--------------|---------|---------|-------|----------|-------------|---------|
| | | | | | | YES | NO |
| | 0,913 830 | 05.1999 | EP | | | | |
| | 1 033 764 | 09.2000 | EP | | | | |
| | 199 34 009 | 01.2000 | DE | | | | SEE IDS |

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.

*Substitute Disclosure Statement Form (PTO-1449)

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Sheet 2 of 2

Date Mailed: April 15, 2003

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|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| FORM 1449* INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary) | Docket Number: 10873.792USD1 | Application Number: 09/931,113 |
| | Applicant: HIRAMOTO et al. | |
| | Filing Date: August 16, 2001 | Group Art Unit: 1775 |

| OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) | | |
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